

(d) All requirements of the constitution and laws of this state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled and accomplished.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on May 8, 2015: Yeas 139, Nays 3, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 22, 2015: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Filed without signature June 15, 2015.

Effective June 15, 2015.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INFRASTRUCTURE
IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL BY THE RIO GRANDE REGIONAL
WATER AUTHORITY; PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE A
VOLUNTARY ASSESSMENT**

CHAPTER 444

H.B. No. 3545

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of an infrastructure improvement council by the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority; providing authority to impose a voluntary assessment.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 1.01, Chapter 385, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, is amended by adding Subdivision (4-b) to read as follows:

(4-b) “Council” means the council established under Section 1B.01 of this Act.

SECTION 2. Chapter 385, Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, is amended by adding Article 1B to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1B. INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Sec. 1B.01. INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL. (a) The board shall establish an infrastructure improvement council in connection with the implementation of infrastructure improvement projects within the authority’s territory.

(b) The board shall set, according to a formula determined by the board, an annual voluntary assessment. Revenue from the assessment imposed under this subsection shall be deposited to the credit of an infrastructure improvement fund to be administered by the council. After the board sets the formula used to determine the assessment, the assessment may be modified only by the council.

(c) A member of the conference that pays the voluntary assessment under Subsection (b) shall appoint a representative to serve as a member of the council.

(d) The council may apply for financial assistance under Subchapters G and H, Chapter 15, Water Code, and may implement infrastructure improvement projects approved by the council under this article.

(e) The council shall study the viability of each infrastructure improvement project requested by council members to determine whether an infrastructure improvement project is eligible to receive financial assistance from the council.

(f) Only members of the council are eligible to receive financial assistance from the council for infrastructure improvement projects under this article.

(g) The council shall establish procedures to govern the council.

(h) *The council may:*

- (1) *hire employees to implement this section; and*
- (2) *engage in infrastructure improvement projects without board approval.*

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on April 23, 2015: Yeas 138, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3545 on May 21, 2015: Yeas 136, Nays 7, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 20, 2015: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Filed without signature June 15, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.

**DESIGNATION OF WESTSIDE DRIVE IN EL PASO COUNTY
AS THE DON JUAN DE ONATE TRAIL**

CHAPTER 445

H.B. No. 3868

AN ACT

relating to the designation of Westside Drive in El Paso County as the Don Juan de Onate Trail.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 442, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 442.030 to read as follows:

Sec. 442.030. DON JUAN DE ONATE TRAIL AS TEXAS HISTORIC HIGHWAY.

(a) The commission shall cooperate with the Texas Department of Transportation to designate, interpret, and market Westside Drive in El Paso County as the Don Juan de Onate Trail and a Texas historic highway.

(b) To supplement revenue available for the purposes under Subsection (a), the commission and the Texas Department of Transportation may pursue federal funds dedicated to highway enhancement.

(c) A designation of Westside Drive in El Paso County as the Don Juan de Onate Trail and a Texas historic highway may not be construed as a designation under the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. Section 470 et seq.).

(d) The Texas Department of Transportation is not required to design, construct, or erect a marker under this section unless a grant or donation of funds is made to the department to cover the cost of the design, construction, and erection of the marker. Money received to cover the cost of the marker shall be deposited to the credit of the state highway fund.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

Passed by the House on April 30, 2015: Yeas 139, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 20, 2015: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Filed without signature June 15, 2015.

Effective September 1, 2015.